MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*) : (ഡീ) ഭാഗത്തിൽ പറയുന്നതിപ്പോൾട്ടനസരിച്ചുള്ള വേലകൾ എപ്പോൾ ചെയ്യാനാണ് ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നത്?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*) : അതിപ്പോൾ പറയുന്നതിനു നിവൃത്തിയില്ല.

Storage of Salt.

271. **MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI** (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): (*a*) With reference to the Dewan's reply to Mr. Subrahmanya Karayalar's representation at the 18th session of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly (page 45 of the proceedings) regarding the payment of *kudivaram* after weighment, *viz.*, "The storage of salt after weighment is a vexed question. Correspondence has been going on for the last one year. The Excise Commissioner is very much against it. I am in correspondence with the British Government in regard to the practice there in this matter. The subject is engaging my serious attention. I wish I could come to an early decision in regard to that point", will the Government be pleased to state how this matter was decided in the light of the reply?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have received any reply to the communication sent to the British Government on this matter? If so, what is the custom followed in British India?

(*c*) What was the custom followed till the 1st Kumbham, 1095, when the new rules were brought into force?

(*d*) When was the *kudivaram* being paid?

(*e*) Was there any building in the salt factories for stocking the salt, before the 1st Kumbham 1095?

(*f*) What was the procedure followed for weighment, etc., of salt there?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The Government having found that weighment before storage was indispensable, the rules on the subject were left alone.

(*b*) Yes. The practice now followed in British India is the same as in Travancore.

(*c*) The quantity was ascertained by rough estimation on sight.

(*d*) *Kudivaram* was being paid when the salt was taken delivery of by the Government.

(*e*) No.

(*f*) Government have no information.

Sale of salt and profit to Government.

272. **MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI** (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the price of salt to be sold in each locality is actually fixed by them?

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(*b*) In fixing the price of salt in each locality, do the Government include the establishment and transport charges of the salt, and if so, is the price calculated just to cover those expenses only?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to state the several items of expenditure proposed to be included and actually included in the item called "Recoveries on account of charges incurred in salt sale"?

(*d*) Do the Government make any profit under this item? If so, what is the basis of calculation of this profit?

(*e*) If the Government have actually realised any profit on this account, will they be pleased to state the net profit thus realised for each year during the decade 1091 to 1100?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The Government fix the price of salt sold in the factories, depôts and bankshalls.

(*b*) Yes. The price includes establishment, travelling and transport charges, petty construction and repairs and other contingent charges. Provision is made also for the wastage of salt during transport and storage. It is not possible to fix a price which will just cover the above charges, since several of the items of expenditure are of a varying nature.

(*c*) The items mentioned in (*b*) are included under the head.

(*d*) It is possible that there may be a small margin of profit. This is inevitable. The prices are so fixed as to avoid all chances of loss.

(*e*) It is not possible to estimate the net amounts realised for any particular year as several of the items of expenditure mentioned above are of a varying nature. Besides, the extent of wastage cannot be ascertained during the course of the year of supply but only when the sheds are emptied. The recoveries as a whole are shown in the accounts.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): ഓരോ ഡിപ്പോവിൽ നിന്നും വില്ക്കുന്നതായ ഉപ്പിന്റെ വില ഏതെല്ലാം ചിലവുകളെഉൾപ്പെടുത്തിയാണ് നിശ്ചയിക്കുന്നത്?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): പാട്ട് (ബി) യിൽ പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ട്.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): ട്രാൻസ്പോർട്ട് ചാർജ്ജിൽ വേറെ ഏതെങ്കിലും ഇനം കൂടി ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തീട്ടുണ്ടോ?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): സാധാരണ അങ്ങിനെ പതിവില്ല.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): ആ ഇനത്തിൽ എത്ര രൂപാ ചിലവാകുന്നുണ്ട്?

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MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): അതിനെ ചിലവാകുന്നതു് ഒരംടാക്കുകയാണു് പതിവു.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): റിക്കവറീസ് എന്ന ഇനത്തിൽ ഏതെല്ലാം ഇനങ്ങളാണു ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തീട്ടുള്ളതു?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): പാട്ട് (ബി) യിൽപറഞ്ഞതെല്ലാം ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തീട്ടുണ്ടു്.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): ആതായതു് എസ്റ്റാബ്ലിഷ്മെൻറു, ട്രാവലിങ്ങ് അലവൻസു്, ട്രാൻസ്പോർട്ട് ചാർജസ്സു്, പെറിക്കൺസ്ക്രിപ്ഷൻ, റിപ്പയർ, കണ്ടിജൻസി ഈഅഞ്ചിനങ്ങളിലും ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തേണ്ട തുകയിലു ആണ്ടുതോറും എത്ര രൂപാ ഈടാക്കിവരുന്നു?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): അതു പ്രത്യേകം നോക്കീട്ടില്ല. നോക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യവുമില്ല.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): മുൻപറഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ള ചിലവുകളെല്ലാം കഴിച്ചു് അതിൽ കൂടുതൽ ലാഭം കിട്ടിവരുന്നുണ്ടോ?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): പ്രത്യേകം പറയാൻ സാധിക്കയില്ല. ഗവർമ്മെൻറു നഷ്ടപ്പെടുന്നില്ലെന്നുമാത്രം പറയാം.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): ഉദ്ദേശം ഒരുലക്ഷം രൂപായിൽ കൂടുതൽ ലാഭം കിട്ടിവരുന്നുണ്ടോ?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): അങ്ങിനെ പറയാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): അഡ്മിനിസ്ട്രേഷൻ റിപ്പോർട്ടിൽ "ഡെഡ് ഹെഡ്" എന്ന കാളത്തിൽ ര വു, ഉ ഠ രൂപാ കാണുന്നു. ഈ തുക ഏതാണ്?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): I claim notice.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): അതും ഈ ഇനത്തിൽ ഏതെങ്കിലും ഉൾപ്പെടുന്നുണ്ടോ?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): അറിഞ്ഞുകൂടാ.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): സാമ്പ ലാഭത്തിനു സാദ്ധ്യമുള്ളതായിട്ടാണു് പാട്ട് (ഡി) യിൽ പറയുന്നതു്. അതു എത്രയാണു്?

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MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): അത് ആണ്ടവനാനത്തിലെ നിശ്ചയിക്കാൻ സാധിക്കയുള്ളൂ.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vlavankod*): പാട്ട് (ഇ) യിൽ വേസ്റ്റേജ് എന്നു പറയുന്നത് എത്രയുണ്ടായിരിക്കും?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): അതിന്റെ കണക്കു പ്രത്യേകം വരുത്തീട്ടില്ല.

Sale of salt by traders at high prices.

273. **MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI** (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): (*a*) Does any one exercise supervision with a view to prevent traders from selling salt at high prices?

(*b*) If so, who is that person?

(*c*) Have instances of sale of salt at high prices been detected?

(*d*) If so, have cases been taken up in such instances?

(*e*) How many such cases have been taken up from 1096 to 1100 and what was their result?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): (*a*) and (*b*) There is no officer specially charged with that work.

(*c*) to (*e*) There is no provision in the Salt Regulation or the Rules passed thereunder for regulating the retail price of salt in the bazaars; and there is no necessity for such a provision since salt is sold freely to all persons from the Government depôts and factories. Generally free competition in the open market tends to keep down prices within reasonable limits. On some special occasions and when communications are interrupted by floods or otherwise, prices have sometimes gone up in particular localities and complaints are then received by the department about it. The department thereupon takes such measures as are open to it, either by persuasion or by the opening of depots temporarily or otherwise, to bring down the price in those localities. In 1095, when the Trivandrum Depot was closed, the price of salt went up in the Trivandrum town, and the difficulty disappeared when the depot was re-opened. In 1098, in some of the northern taluks of the State the prices went up abnormally at the time of increase of duty; but with the intervention of departmental officers who met and advised the traders concerned, the prices went down and complaints ceased. Such instances are, however, rare.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): ഡിപ്പോവിൽനിന്നും ഉപ്പു തുക്കിക്കൊടുത്തതിൽ പിന്നീട് അവർ വിൽക്കുന്നവിലയെപ്പറ്റി ഗവർണ്മെന്റിൽനിന്നും അന്വേഷണം നടത്തിവരുന്നുണ്ടോ?

MR. P N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): ജനങ്ങളുടെ പരാതിയുണ്ടാകുന്നകാലത്ത് ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിൽ നിന്നും അന്വേഷ

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